

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3-6, 10-15, 20, and 21 are presently pending in this case. Claims 1, 10, 11, 20, and 21 are amended by the present amendment. As amended Claims 1, 10, 11, 20, and 21 are supported by the original disclosure,<sup>1</sup> no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Official Action, Claims 1, 3-6, 10-15, 20, and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Sie et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,240,359, hereinafter “Sie”) in view of Fuller (U.S. Patent No. 5,818,512) and further in view of Bendinelli et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,792,618, hereinafter “Bendinelli”).

The outstanding rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amended Claims 1 and 11 recite in part:

stream switching means for switching between two inputs from said reproducing means, said stream switching means pausing a first stream data at a stop point of the first stream data and reproducing a second stream data from a stop point of the second stream data when the stream switching means is actuated to change from the first stream data to the second stream data, said history storing means storing both the stop point of the first stream data and the stop point of the second stream data.

Fuller describes storing a **single** bookmark of a stopping place of a video,<sup>2</sup> but does not describe storing a stop point **for each of the plurality of stream data**. Bendinelli only describes reproducing a program video based on a characteristic selected by a viewer, such as a type of ending for a program.<sup>3</sup> Thus, Bendinelli does not describe switching between types of endings, as a single program video is selected based on the characteristic provided. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that a combination of Fuller and Bendinelli would simply include

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<sup>1</sup>See, e.g., the specification at page 33, line 18 to page 34, line 16.

<sup>2</sup>See Fuller, column 16, lines 3-8.

<sup>3</sup>See Bendinelli, column 4, line 63 to column 5, line 30.

a single bookmark for the single program video selected. The proposed combination would not teach or suggest stream switching means which pauses a first stream at a stop point for the first stream and reproduces a second stream from a stop point for the second stream when switching from the first stream to the second stream. This allows switching between streams like television stations, yet preventing the user from missing any of either stream, as each stream is paused at the point at which the stream is changed. Therefore, the proposed combination does not teach or suggest “stream switching means” as defined in amended Claims 1 and 11. Further, Sie does not teach or suggest such a feature, nor does a combination of Sie, Fuller, and Bendinelli. Consequently, Claims 1 and 11 (and Claims 3-6 and 12-15 dependent therefrom) are patentable over Sie in view of Fuller and further in view of Bendinelli.

Amended Claim 10 recites in part:

switching between two inputs from said reproducing,  
said switching between two inputs from said reproducing  
including pausing a first stream data at a stop point of the first  
stream data and reproducing a second stream data from a stop  
point of the second stream data to change from the first stream  
data to the second stream data, and storing both the stop point  
of the first stream data and the stop point of the second stream  
data.

As noted above, the proposed combination would not teach or suggest pausing a first stream at a stop point for the first stream and reproducing a second stream from a stop point for the second stream when switching from the first stream to the second stream. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that even a combination of Fuller and Bendinelli does not teach “switching between two inputs from said reproducing” as recited in amended Claim 10. Further, Sie does not cure this deficiency of Fuller and Bendinelli. Consequently, Claim 10 is also patentable over Sie in view of Fuller and further in view of Bendinelli.

Amended Claims 20 and 21 each recite in part:

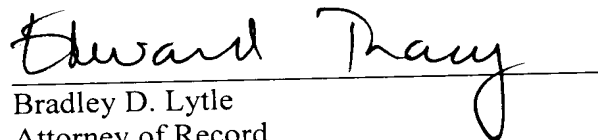
a stream switching unit configured to switch between two inputs from said reproducing unit, said stream switching unit configured to pause a first stream data at a stop point of the first stream data and to reproduce a second stream data from a stop point of the second stream data when the stream switching unit is actuated to change from the first stream data to the second stream data, said history storing unit configured to store both the stop point of the first stream data and the stop point of the second stream data.

As noted above, even a combination of Fuller and Bendinelli does not teach or suggest a stream switching unit configured to pause a first stream at a stop point for the first stream and to reproduce a second stream from a stop point for the second stream when switching from the first stream to the second stream. Further, Sie does not teach or suggest such a feature either. Consequently, amended Claims 20 and 21 are patentable over Sie, Fuller, and Bendinelli.

Accordingly, the pending claims are believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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